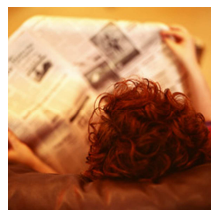


DFK UK & Ireland Conference 2010



Visiting Belfast



DFK UK & Ireland Annual Conference 2010



We would be happy to assist you with information to help make your visit to Belfast more enjoyable. Northern Ireland is a great place and its small size makes its attractions very accessible.

We thought it might be useful to give a few details of things for accompanying persons to do while the conference is taking place on the Friday if and also some things to do if staying on for a couple of days. This guide includes things you can do at the hotel, places to visit close to the hotel and further afield as well as tours, attractions and the best shopping in Belfast City Centre. If you are interested in moving from Templepatrick down to the city centre, the Hilton Belfast are currently offering weekend rates at £89.00 Bed and breakfast if you pre-pay rate and £104.00 for a flexible rate. These rates can be found on-line at www.hilton.co.uk/belfast

For further information on any of the activities mentioned below or to find out more about Belfast and Northern Ireland, please contact:

Claire Kelly

ClaireKelly@johnston-kennedy.com

T: +44 (0)28 9267 2096

If you want to have a **lazy day** why not try a round of golf at the hotel or a spa treatment.



This pleasant parkland course facilitates golfers of all handicap levels due to its multi tee concept. The course was designed to USGA specification and has been acclaimed as one of Northern Ireland's finest courses.

The layout allows for over 7,000 yards of challenging fairways and greens interspersed with lakes and mature parkland. There are also extensive practice facilities. Tee times must be booked directly with the hotel.

The hotel has leisure facilities on site. You can relax in the sauna, work out in the gym or take a dip in the indoor pool. The price list for spa treatments has been sent separately. Delegates and accompanying guests can take advantage of the members discounted rates.



If you want to get out of the hotel for a while there are several excursions close by which would while away a couple of hours leaving you plenty of time to get back to the hotel to get ready for the dinner.

Donegore Garden Centre - This is a lovely garden centre just five minutes by car from the hotel Donegore has a nice lifestyle gift shop selling all sorts of things and a fabulous coffee shop doing lunches, scones and cakes (all home made and yummy!).

Castle Upton Art Gallery - Again this is only five minutes away from the hotel and if you fancy taking home some Irish art is well worth a visit. www.castleuptongallery.com

Junction One - Alternatively if you feel like going further afield just twenty minutes away by car is the Junction One outlet centre which has over 60 outlets and also restaurants and coffee shops. www.junctionone.co.uk

As an accompanying person, if you are interested in a visit to any or all of these places on Friday 1 October, please contact Claire Kelly at ClaireKelly@johnston-kennedy.com who will try to co-ordinate transport by car from the hotel.

Lazy Days

If, instead of a lazy time at the hotel you fancy heading down the road to the city for the day it is only a short journey (20 minutes approx). There are loads to do in Belfast and you can find out more at www.gotobelfast.com

If shopping isn't your thing Belfast can also offer other things to do to while away a few hours. Suggestions include:

An open topped city bus tour

www.thebelfastcitytour.com

www.belfastcitysightseeing.co.uk

www.allenstours.co.uk

Or perhaps a taxicabs city tour

www.titanictours-belfast.co.uk

www.valuecabs.co.uk

If you prefer to stay fit and active there are walking tours

www.titanicwalk.com

www.belfastpubtours.com

www.ghostwalkbelfast.com

www.belfastfreetours.com

If you are into gardening and museums

The Ulster Museum and Botanic Gardens just outside the city centre near Queens University are worth a visit

www.nmni.com

and if you prefer to concentrate your efforts on that area of the city (known as South Belfast) then you may want to continue with some shopping, coffee or lunch on the Lisburn Road - favourite haunt of the yummy mummies and ladies who lunch!

www.visitlisburnroad.com/theroad.html

If you want to lunch in Belfast city centre or perhaps indulge in afternoon tea or a cocktail check out

www.themerchanthotel.com/html/dining/greatroom.html

www.cafevaudeville.com

www.basementbistrobar.co.uk

www.tensquare.co.uk



Belfast City Hall

If shopping is your thing, then Belfast has a lot to offer! The New Victoria Square complex hosts many new and exciting shops in a fabulous setting although many will probably be familiar as high street brands in the UK. But the shopping centre itself is a wonderful piece of architecture with a dome at the top which you can climb up into with some amazing views of Belfast. However Belfast can also offer many unique “non-chain” shopping experiences such as:

The Steensons – jewellery

The Steensons is one of Ireland's leading contemporary designers in jewellery. Their store boasts a large range of their own locally made jewellery and work from various European, British and Irish Designers. Working in platinum, gold and silver along with diamonds and other precious gems, their work is modern, individual and unique. www.thesteensons.com

Liberty Blue – fashion

An absolute Aladdin's cave packed with gorgeous dresses and the most wonderful, whimsical, fairytale inspired jewellery. This award winning store is an institution in Belfast and has featured in almost all the fashion glossies. www.libertyblue.co.uk

Learning Space – toyshop

An award winning educational toy and resource store. www.learningspaceni.co.uk

The Wicker Man

One of the leading Irish craft shops, stocking the work of more than 150 craft workers from all over Ireland. Including potters, jewelers, artists, knitters and clock-makers. Local souvenir items range from postcards to musical instruments and Irish records. www.thewickerman.co.uk

Oakland Antiques

Belfast's largest antique showrooms at the centre of Donegall Pass antiques and art gallery quarter. With showrooms on two floors, this is the perfect place to find Georgian, Victorian and Edwardian furniture, silver, clocks, glass, bronze, porcelain plus quality painting.

Utopia

This is a treasure trove where you'll find the perfect gift or decorative item for your home. For children they have a charming range of baby gifts, lovable dolls, imaginative puppets plus the toys that you remember from when you were a kid. For adults you can choose from a wide variety of gifts including chess sets, traditional games, collectibles, limited edition teddies, men's gifts and jewellery. www.utopiaonline.co.uk

Carter Clothing

Belfast's premier men's and women's fashion boutique and this bright and spacious store is just a stone's throw from Belfast City Hall, with a wide selection of Collections such as Armani, D&G and SAND. www.carteclothing.com

Chinacraft

Chinacraft offer a wide range of locally produced arts, crafts and gifts including Belleek and Donegal China, Waterford, Tyrone, Galway and Swarovski Crystal, Finian Leprechauns and many other Northern Ireland souvenirs

Craft Design Collective - Space Craft

The Craft & Design Collective is the largest Craft Network in Northern Ireland. Space CRAFT, a shop, gallery and exhibition area owned and managed by the Craft & Design Collective, is located in the heart of the City. With prices ranging from the modest to the more luxurious you will find Craft, Applied Art & Design by established and emerging Artist/Designer/Makers and a constantly changing programme of exhibitions. www.craftanddesigncollective.com

Staying for the Weekend?

If you are thinking of staying for the weekend you may want to go further afield.

For a drive full of stunning scenery and relaxing places to stop drive to Downpatrick then towards Strangford and across on the ferry (a very short trip) to Portaferry. Take a break for a drink or light lunch in The Portaferry Arms. Then drive back around Strangford Lough past the National Trust property Mountstewart (well worth a visit with its beautiful gardens) through Greyabbey which is full of charming antique and gift shops.

Or leave Belfast and go out into the country towards Ballynahinch, taking the A24 towards Castlewellan where you could visit Castlewellan Forest Park which has a fabulous arboretum and The Peace Maze.

www.discovernorthernireland.com/Castlewellan-Forest-Park-Castlewellan-P2881

Then on to Newcastle where you could visit the majestic Slieve Donard Hotel (www.hastingshotels.com/slieve-donard-resort-and-spa/dining) for a meal before a walk on the beach where you can see the views that inspired Percy French to write his famous song describing how “the mountains of Mourne sweep down to the sea”

For golfers, there are some amazing courses in Northern Ireland.

<http://www.geographia.com/northern-ireland/ukigolf1.htm>

Mr Ivor McCandless from the Lisburn office of Johnston Kennedy DFK is Chairman of the Ulster Branch of the Golfing Union of Ireland and he will be more than happy to help any keen golfers make arrangements to play. Anyone interested can email Lisburn@johnston-kennedy.com



Left: Mountstewart
Below: Castlewellan Forest Park

